

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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STATE OF WISCONSIN

BEFORE THE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR SECTION OF THE EXAMINING BOARD OF SOCIAL WORKERS, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS
AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS

IN THE MATTER OF

DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST:

MARY A. HERSHBERGER, C.P.C.,

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

RESPONDENT

Mary A. Hershberger, C.P.C.

1121 N. Waverly Place., Apt 501

Milwaukee, WI 53202

On February 2, 2000, the Professional Counselors Section entered a Final Decision and Order in this case, based on a stipulation between the respondent, Mary A. Hershberger, and the Division of Enforcement of the Department of Regulation and Licensing. Besides reprimanding Ms. Hershberger, the section ordered the following:

1. Within six (6) months from the date of this order Ms. Hershberger shall submit documentation of successful completion of a program of at least eight (8) hours of counseling, continuing education or other training acceptable to the Board in the area(s) of stress and/or anger management and at least eight (8) hours of continuing education acceptable to the Board in the area of client management. To be acceptable, the counseling, course or training shall be pre-approved by a member or designated agent of the Professional Counselors Section. Acceptable documentation shall include certification from the sponsoring organization as well as a statement signed by Ms. Hershberger verifying that she attended the course in its entirety.

2. The Department Monitor is the individual designated by the Board as its agent to coordinate compliance with the terms of this Order, including coordinating all requests for approval of counseling, training or education. The Department Monitor may be reached as follows:

Department Monitor

Division of Enforcement

P.O. Box 8935

Madison, WI 53708-8935

FAX (608) 266-2264

TEL. (608) 261-7938

3. In the event that Ms. Hershberger fails to timely comply with the terms set forth above, her professional counselor's certificate shall be suspended, without further notice or hearing, until she has complied with paragraph 1 of this Order.

4. While the terms of this Order are in effect, Ms. Hershberger shall provide any current or prospective professional counseling employers with a copy of this Final Decision and Order.

5. Violation of any of the terms of this Order shall be construed as conduct imperiling public health, safety and welfare and may result in a summary suspension of Ms. Hershberger's counselor's certificate; the Board in its discretion may in the alternative impose additional conditions and limitations or other discipline for a violation of any of the terms of this Order.

On September 7, 2000, the section considered Ms. Hershberger's letter dated July 11, 2000 in which she requested a six-month extension of the time period for compliance with her order. The section also received information from the departmental monitor, Ted Nehring, that he had spoken to Ms. Hershberger on more than one occasion about her responsibilities under the order. Mr. Nehring reported to the section that Ms. Hershberger had made requests for the approval of training courses which did not address the topics in paragraph 1. Mr. Nehring also reported that Ms. Hershberger had proposed counseling but that she had not responded to a request for a copy of a treatment plan associated with the counseling.

Therefore, the Professional Counselors Section finds that Mary A. Hershberger has not complied with the section's February 2, 2000 order, and

IT IS ORDERED that the professional counselor certificate granted to Mary A. Hershberger is hereby suspended, effective on the fifth calendar day after this signed order is delivered to her by certified mail, return receipt requested, and such suspension shall continue until she complies with the February 2, 2000 order by submitting documentation of successful completion of a program of at least eight (8) hours of counseling, continuing education or other training acceptable to the Board in the area(s) of stress and/or anger management and at least eight (8) hours of continuing education acceptable to the Board in the area of client management.

When the necessary documentation is received by the Departmental Monitor, he shall report Ms. Hershberger's compliance to the chair or other member of the Professional Counselors Section, and that member of the section may sign an order terminating the suspension.

Dated October 9th, 2000.

Colleen James

Chair, Professional Counselor Section